

**Lieutenant Governor
Katherine L. Davis, Director**
INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ONE NORTH CAPITOL, SUITE 700
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
TEL 317 232 8800
Fax 317 232 5123
www.indianacommerce.com

For Immediate Release: June 21, 2004

For More Information Contact: Angie Dye, 317.232.2464
Greg Chandler, 317.232.8873

Davis Awards \$450,000 Grant to Ripley County for Public Library Expansion

INDIANAPOLIS—Lt. Gov. Kathy Davis today awarded a \$450,000 Community Focus Fund grant to Ripley County for the renovation of the existing historic Carnegie Library and the construction of a 7,200-square-foot addition.

Through the grant, the county will renovate and expand the current Osgood Public Library, which is a Carnegie Library, built in 1914. The existing building will be completely remodeled adding a large meeting room, a small kitchenette, new updated restrooms, storage areas, elevators and staircases.

"Serving residents of all ages, the Osgood Public Library is a valuable asset to the community," said Davis, who serves as the director of the Indiana Department of Commerce. "We're pleased to provide funding for the expansion of the library."

The Osgood Public Library is listed as the only Carnegie Library in Ripley County. It has outgrown its current facility and poses many health and safety threats as well as Indiana and local code violations. Books are stored on top of bookshelves and tables due to lack of shelf space. The library was built in Tudor Revival style on the only brick street in Osgood, which makes the library even more valuable for the community to preserve.

The Community Focus Fund (CFF) is a federally funded grant program administered by the Indiana Department of Commerce. The funding is available to small cities, towns and counties for construction projects designed to benefit low- to moderate-income individuals or to eliminate blight in communities. Grants are awarded through competitive funding rounds to assist small communities in long-term development projects.

Projects eligible for CFF grants include local infrastructure improvements, childcare facilities, senior and community centers, downtown revitalization and fire stations and fire trucks. Up to \$500,000 is available per applicant. A match of at least 10 percent is required from the grant recipient.

In this, the second round of funding for 2004, 37 Hoosier communities shared in nearly \$15 million in funding.

Ripley County/add 1

For more information about the CFF grant program, contact the Office of Community Assistance in the Community Development Division of the Indiana Department of Commerce at 800.824.2476 or access its Web site at www.indianacommerce.com.

###